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Nonpropagative
Manual

Fruits and Vegetables

Regulating the Importation of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

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Background And Introduction

What is Covered

This manual covers all fresh fruits and vegetables (including fresh herbs and sprouts) that are imported from any foreign country, from Palau, from the Federated States of Micronesia, or from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs must be intended for consumption—**not** propagation. Only the approved plant part(s) of the fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs is allowed entry. This manual also has the procedures for regulating foreign produce that is transiting the United States.

| Fruits | Vegetables | Herbs |
|----------|--|-----------|
| ◆ Apples | ◆ Edible inflorescences Broccoli Globe artichoke | ◆ Mint |
| ◆ Citrus | ◆ Leafy vegetables Lettuce Mustard Watercress | ◆ Oregano |
| ◆ Grapes | ◆ Root crops Carrots Horseradish | ◆ Sorrel |
| ◆ Pears | ◆ Stem crops Celery Rhubarb | |
| | ◆ Tuberous crops Potatoes | |
| | ◆ Legumes Pigeon peas Winged beans | |

What is Not Covered

| Fruits and vegetables not covered: | Where to find the information you need: |
|--|---|
| Botanical fruits for decoration—such as decorative <i>Ananas</i> (pineapple), <i>Capsicum</i> (pepper), <i>Cynara</i> (artichoke) | Manual on FLOWERS AND GREENERY (pink tab) |
| Processed fruits, vegetables, and herbs that have been: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Canned ◆ Concentrated ◆ Cooked ◆ Dried ◆ Frozen ◆ Jellied ◆ Juiced ◆ Pickled ◆ Pureed ◆ Segmented ◆ Sliced | Manual on MISCELLANEOUS AND PROCESSED PRODUCTS (blue tab) |
| Dried, mature, unprocessed seed such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Acorns ◆ Chestnuts ◆ Coconuts ◆ Faba Beans ◆ Lentils ◆ Macadamia nuts ◆ Peanuts | Manual on UNPROCESSED SEEDS (yellow tab) |
| Any fruit, vegetable, or herb imported for propagative purposes | MCFR 319.37 |

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Methods and Procedures

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How to Sample and Inspect

Here is an overview of the steps involved in sampling, inspecting, and taking regulatory action on commercial shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables. Follow the steps for clearing noncommercial shipments.

- Step 1**—Determine if shipment is precleared, cold treated, in international mail, U.S. returned, or merely transiting the United States

Step 2—Determine entry status and any special conditions of entry

Step 2a—Determine if it is approved from ALL COUNTRIES or ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WEST INDIES

Step 2b—Determine if it is approved under the listing for individual countries

Step 2c—Decide whether to refuse entry or to allow entry

Step 2d—Determine appropriate action

Step 3—Check permit (oral permits can be given for approved, noncommercial shipments)

Step 4—Verify shipment and determine its condition

Step 5—Select the sample

Step 6—Inspect sample

Step 7—Take regulatory action based on inspection results

Step 8—Document action taken

Equipment

When sampling and inspecting fresh fruits and vegetables, you may need some or all of the following equipment:

- ◆ Alcohol (for insect preservation)
- ◆ Brush (a small one for picking up insects)
- ◆ Flashlight
- ◆ Hand lens
- ◆ Knife
- ◆ Manuals
- ◆ Pill boxes (for adult insects)
- ◆ Regulatory stamps (Released, Treated & Released, Authorize Shipment to:, and Inspected & Released)
- ◆ Safety equipment (hard hat, plastic or rubber gloves)
- ◆ Vials
- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____

Step 1—Determine if Shipment is Precleared, Cold Treated, in International Mail, U.S. Returned, or Transiting the United States

Assuming that you have already reviewed the documents accompanying the shipment, you will be able to determine the following:

| If the shipment is: | Then: |
|---|--|
| Precleared by PPQ at a foreign site | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CHECK PPQ Form 203 or PPQ Form 540, or a copy of a telex that verifies PPQ did preclear shipment 2. MONITOR seals and VERIFY that numbers and types of fruits and vegetables that are precleared match the shipping documents. If they do, RELEASE the shipment. If they don't, HOLD the shipment and CONTACT International Programs through channels. |
| Cold treated in transit | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CHECK the Treatment Manual¹ to see if vessel is approved by PPQ for cold treatment 2. FOLLOW instruction in the Treatment Manual on how to clear cold treated shipments 3. GO to Step 2 |
| Foreign produce that is transiting the United States | GO to the Special Procedures section of this manual entitled "Produce of Foreign Origin That is Transiting the United States" |
| U.S. returned fruits or vegetables | GO to the Special Procedures section of this manual entitled "U.S. Returned Fruits and Vegetables" |
| International mail | GO to the Special Procedures section of this manual entitled "Fresh Fruits and Vegetables in International Mail" |
| Other than one of the categories in the five cells above | GO to Step 2 |

¹ If vessel is **not** listed in the Treatment Manual, call the Oxford Plant Protection Center to verify that vessel has been approved. Their phone number is 919-693-5151.

Step 2—Determine Entry Status and Any Special Conditions of Entry

To determine if a fruit or vegetable is approved for entry into the United States (for both commercial and noncommercial entries)—follow the following sequence:

Step 2a—Determine if it is Approved from ALL COUNTRIES or ALL COUNTRIES IN THE WEST INDIES:

| If the item is from: | Then: |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| The West Indies ¹ | CHECK to see if the item is approved for entry for ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WEST INDIES by looking for the item in the list printed on page 2-143 —then continue to Step 2b that immediately follows: |
| Other than the West Indies | CHECK to see if the item is approved for entry from ALL COUNTRIES by looking for the item in the list printed on page 2-40 —then continue to Step 2b that immediately follows |

- ¹ West Indies, the island countries of Anguilla; Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Barbados; Cayman Islands (Br.); Cuba; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Grenada; Guadeloupe and St. Barthelemy (Fr.); Haiti; Jamaica; Martinique (Fr.); Montserrat (Br.); St. Eustatius (Neth.); St. Kitts and Nevis; St. Lucia; St. Martin (Fr. & Neth.); St. Vincent and the Grenadines; Turks and Caicos Islands; and Virgin Islands (Br.).

Step 2b—Determine if it is Approved Under the Listing for Individual Countries:

| If you: | Then: |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Found the item listed | GO to Step 2d |
| Did not find the item listed | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LOOK under the individual country's name (if it's a country in the West Indies, remember to go to the pages printed on green paper). 2. CHECK to see if the item is listed (approved) into ALL ports. 3. IF NOT APPROVED into ALL ports, see if it's approved to move into the AREA OF DESTINATION (for example SAG and/or PR). 4. IF THE ITEM IS STILL NOT FOUND, then see if it's entered by its scientific name or a broad category (like cucurbit), or check the Glossary to see if it may be entered under another common name. CONTINUE to Step 2c |

EXAMPLE: How to use the Reference Section to find out if an item is approved for entry:

If you work in Tampa, Florida, and you need to determine if lettuce is approved from Brazil into Tampa; first look at the list of items approved from ALL COUNTRIES. If you didn't find it listed there, next look under Brazil and the items approved into ALL ports. If you do **not** find it under the listing ALL, look under SAG (South Atlantic and Gulf) ports.

Step 2c—Decide Whether to Refuse Entry or to Allow Entry:

If after going to the listing for the individual country, you found the item listed—go to Step 2d. If still you didn't find the item listed¹, then it's not admissible:

1. REFUSE ENTRY to the item.
2. TELL the importer why entry was refused.
3. GIVE the importer an opportunity to apply for a permit.

If the article is listed as requiring a special inspection procedure (for example—Apple, p. 2.20), then follow special inspection procedures—continue to Step 2d.

Step 2d—Determine Appropriate Action:

| If the fruits or vegetables are: | Then: |
|---|---|
| Listed with a treatment as a condition of entry (for example—Grape, T101-h-2) | 1. CONTINUE with Steps 3 through 8 2. REQUIRE the appropriate treatment, then 3. RELEASE the shipment |
| Listed as requiring some form of certification as a condition of entry | 1. REQUIRE the certification, then 2. CONTINUE with Steps 3 through 8 |
| Listed without any additional conditions of entry, treatment, or inspection procedures | CONTINUE with Steps 3 through 8 |

Step 3—Check Permit

Except where noted, all shipments of approved fresh fruits and vegetables require a permit. Lack of a permit is **not** grounds to refuse entry to a shipment. If the importer does not have a permit, one may be issued at the port of entry. Refer to Appendix 5 for instructions and information on permits.

¹ Fruits and vegetables may **not** be approved entry into the United States for the following reasons: 1) No one has ever applied for a permit to import the product into the United States; 2) PPQ has not evaluated the pest risk of importing the fruit or vegetable from that country; 3) PPQ has studied the risk but cannot issue a permit because no treatment exists that eliminates the pest risk; 4) The President or Congress embargoes trade with specified countries; or 5) Government agencies **other than** PPQ have prohibited or restricted the entry of a fruit or vegetable.

Step 4—Verify Shipment and Determine Its Condition

Check the fruits and vegetables being imported against the accompanying paperwork to verify that the commodities and the paperwork match. If you discover that unauthorized commodities are mixed with approved fruits or vegetables, then take the following action:

Segregate all the containers with cartons or bags of unauthorized commodities.

| If the fruits and vegetables are: | Then: |
|--|---|
| Mixed within the same carton or bag | REFUSE ENTRY |
| Not mixed within the same carton or bag but are mixed within the shipment | CONTACT your supervisor for regulatory action to take |

Determine the condition of the shipment at the same time you verify the contents of the shipment. If the shipment is rotten, decayed, or so badly damaged that your inspection would not be reliable for determining pest presence, then refuse entry to the shipment.

Step 5—Select the Sample

Determining the presence of plant pests or contaminants in a commercial shipment is based on the inspection of a sample. The amount and method of selecting the sample are important in ensuring that the sample is representative of the whole shipment.

Generally, use 2 percent as a standard sample rate. You may increase the sample rate for smaller shipments and decrease the sample rate for larger shipments. In addition, your decision on sample size should be determined by past experience of the port with the shipper and the type of fruit or vegetable being imported. When a shipper or commodity is encountered for the first time, you may want to increase the sampling rate. You may want to decrease the sample rate for low risk items like pineapples and bananas from certain countries.

It is important that the sample is representative of the shipment. Keep in mind that in containerized shipments, shippers may put the cleanest boxes of fruits and vegetables at the tailgate section of the container. It is the responsibility of the importer to supply labor to move, open, and repackage the boxes sampled.

Step 6—Inspect Sample²

Be sure to inspect for evidence of all types of plant pests and contaminants.

- ◆ Insects
- ◆ Mites
- ◆ Mollusks
- ◆ Nematodes
- ◆ Noxious weeds
- ◆ Pathogens
- ◆ Plant debris
- ◆ Soil

Fruits and vegetables are hosts of many significant plant pests and offer an environment which can attract many hitchhiking pests—pests that do not attack the commodity but are transported in the containers or packaging.

Inspectional Support

Here are some suggestions for setting up an inspection area that will make your inspection of fresh fruits and vegetables more effective and easier to conduct. The inspection area should have the following:

- ◆ A table—to inspect and cut fruits and vegetables
- ◆ Good lighting—to be able to see small pests
- ◆ Protection from inclement weather—preferably an indoor site away from open doorways and drafts so pests don't blow away or escape
- ◆ A safe, uncluttered inspection area—away from vehicular traffic, machinery forklifts, and stacked cargo

Inspectional Guidelines

Here are some inspection guidelines for broad groups of fruits and vegetables.

Fleshy or Pulpy Fruits and Vegetables

Inspect the whole surface of the fruit or vegetable for pests or signs of pests boring and feeding. For further examination, carefully slice the fruit or vegetable with a knife and look for insect larvae and other pests.

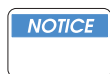
Carefully inspect the top and bottom (stem and calyx ends) of the fruit or vegetable for insects. These ends offer good hiding spots for insects.

² Also pertains to clearing noncommercial shipments.

When inspecting for disease, look for discolored spots, lesions, and surface irregularities that may indicate symptoms of a disease.



NOTE ON **BANANAS**: Inspect plantains, cooking bananas, and bananas which differ from the usual bananas of commerce for internal feeders (fruit flies).



NOTE ON **FRESH PEPPERS** (*Capsicum* spp.): Inspect for both internal and external feeders. If an actionable pest is found inside the fruit, refuse entry to the peppers. There is no approved treatment for peppers with pests inside the fruit. Moreover, if an ordinarily external feeder, like *Copitarsia* spp. is found boring inside the fruit, again, refuse entry to the peppers. Furthermore, if an internal feeder, like an exotic curculionid, is found outside the fruit, again, refuse entry to the peppers. Make sure that when you document the interception, you specify that the pest was found inside the pepper.

Inspect for contaminants such as soil and plant parts which are not approved for entry. Example—apple fruit with the leaves.

Leafy Herbs and Vegetables

Inspect the leaf surface for snails and slugs. The presence of slime trails is a good indication that mollusks are present.

Look for insect larvae and signs of larvae such as frass and holes in the leaves. When examining leaves, look for discolored paths under the leaf surface. The presence of paths (mines) inside the leaf is a good indication that leafminers are present.

Using a probe or knife, extract the leafminer larvae by pricking the leaf surface at the end of a path and looking for small larvae. If available, use a dissecting scope or hand lens for locating the larvae.

Look for soil which is not entirely cleaned from leafy vegetables which are grown close to the ground surface.

Legumes (Beans, Peas, Etc.)

Look for holes bored in both the pods and seeds of legumes. Both larvae and adult insects feed on legumes. *Maruca testulalis*, *Epinotia aporema*, and *Cydia fabivora* are all significant pests of legumes in Mexico, Central and South America, and the West Indies.

When inspecting for disease, look for discoloration, surface irregularities, and malformed pods and seeds as symptoms of diseased legumes.

Root Crops and Edible Bulbs

Inspect the root crop or bulb for signs of insect boring. If bored holes are present, cut into the root or bulb and look for the pests. Both adults and larval stages will feed inside root crops, while the larval stage is most common in bulbs.

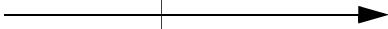
To detect nematodes, look for surface discoloration (generally a brownish-grayish color), surface blisters, depressions, or any irregularity. To inspect for nematodes, you'll need to examine a cross-section of the root crop under a dissecting microscope or hand lens.

Inspect for soil attached to root crops and edible bulbs or for loose soil in the bagging and containers.

Step 7—Take Regulatory Action Based on Inspection Results¹

| If you find: | Then: |
|--|--|
| Pests: ♦ Insects ♦ Mollusks ♦ Pathogens | SEE the following table |
| Contaminants: ♦ Plant debris ♦ Soil ♦ Nonapproved plant parts | 1. HOLD shipment, and 2. REQUIRE removal and disposal of contaminant, or REFUSE ENTRY |
| Nothing | RELEASE shipment |

¹ Also pertains to clearing noncommercial shipments.

| If you: | And the pest or pathogen is: | And you: | Then: |
|--|--|--|--|
| Have authority to identify the pest or pathogen | Actionable | Have authority to order treatment for the pest or pathogen | 1. HOLD shipment, and 2. REQUIRE treatment |
| | | Do not have authority to order treatment for the pest or pathogen | 1. HOLD shipment, and 2. SEND the interception for identification, see Appendix 1 (PPQ Form 309A) and Appendix 18 (Interceptions) of the Airport and Maritime Operations Manual |
| | Nonactionable | | RELEASE shipment |
| Lack identification authority for the pest or pathogen |  | | 1. HOLD shipment, and 2. SEND the interception for identification, see Appendix 1 (PPQ Form 309A) and Appendix 18 (Interceptions) of the Airport and Maritime Operations Manual |

Step 8—Document Action Taken³

Document the regulatory action you have taken by either stamping or writing the action taken on the paperwork that is normally documented at your port.

Special Procedures

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables in International Mail

Since fresh fruits and vegetables are perishable items and the international mail is not an ideal shipping environment, permits are not issued for mail importations. Follow these guidelines for taking action on these shipments.

| If the shipment has: | And the produce is: | And its condition is: | Then: |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Acceptable evidence of origin (phyto-sanitary certificates and sales receipts are examples) | Approved | Good | INSPECT AND RELEASE |
| | | Decayed, rotten, or will not reach destination in good condition | 1. COMPLETE PPQ Form 287 (see M390.210/287 for instructions) 2. REFUSE ENTRY |
| | Not approved | —————→ | |
| No evidence or inconclusive evidence of origin | Approved from ALL COUNTRIES | Good | INSPECT AND RELEASE |
| | | Decayed, rotten, or will not reach destination in good condition | 1. COMPLETE PPQ Form 287 (see M390.210/287 for instructions) 2. REFUSE ENTRY |
| | Not approved from ALL COUNTRIES | —————→ | |

U.S. Returned Fruits and Vegetables

Occasionally fresh fruits and vegetables of U.S. origin are taken outside the United States and are returned. Use these guidelines for handling U.S. returned fruits and vegetables encountered in cargo and passenger baggage.

Verify that the shipment is of U.S. origin by checking the available documentation such as export bill of lading, U.S. Customs export declaration, U.S. phytosanitary certificates, or any other available documents which identify the shipment as U.S. origin.

Sometimes the evidence of origin may be obtained from more than one source. Stencil marks on fruit, sales receipts, and answers to your questions may be used to determine the origin. In many instances, it

³ Also pertains to clearing noncommercial shipments.

will be the cumulative evidence that will satisfy the question of origin. In the case of citrus and avocados, the stencil may easily pinpoint origin.



There have been instances of counterfeit documents and stamping of fruit.



Stencil marks are used on fruit by several countries. Check to make sure the stencil is from a U.S. grower.

This is not a comprehensive list, but includes names most likely to be encountered.

Stencils

| Arizona and California | Florida | Texas |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Blue Goose | Babijua | Alamo |
| Calavo | Florida | Crest-Tex |
| Coachella | Florigold | McAllen Texas |
| Excell | Indian River | Royal Ruby |
| Gold Banner | Intrinsic | Sweetex |
| Pure Gold | Orchid | Texasweet |
| Sunkist | Seald Sweet | Texas |
| Sundiet (Sun-diet) | | |

| If the U.S. returned goods are in: | And are: | Then: |
|------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Cargo | Citrus | GO to Table 2-1 on page 2-14 |
| | Noncitrus | GO to Table 2-2 on page 2-14 |
| Passenger baggage and provisions | Citrus | GO to Table 2-3 on page 2-15 |
| | Noncitrus | GO to Table 2-4 on page 2-15 |

TABLE 2-1: U.S. citrus encountered in cargo

| If citrus grown in: | And reentering U.S. at: | And: | Then: |
|---|---|--|---|
| , Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or Hawaii | _____→ | → | REFUSE ENTRY |
| Florida | American Samoa, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Louisiana ¹ , Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Texas, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands | → | |
| | Other than States and territories listed in cell above | Accompanied by a limited permit ² | 1. VERIFY fruit is intact in original shipping containers 2. RELEASE |
| | | Lacks a limited permit ² | REFUSE ENTRY |
| Texas | Arizona, California, Hawaii, Louisiana*, Florida, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands | Evidence the citrus received T107-b | 1. VERIFY fruit is intact in original shipping containers 2. RELEASE |
| | | No evidence of T107-b | REFUSE ENTRY |
| | Other than States and territories listed in cell above | → | 1. VERIFY fruit is intact in original shipping containers |
| Other than three cells above | _____→ | → | 2. RELEASE |

1 Only the parishes of Iberia, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lafouche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Mary, and Terrebonne.

2 A document issued at point of origin that authorizes the interstate movement of regulated articles.

TABLE 2-2: Noncitrus encountered in cargo

| If the fruit or vegetable is: | And the container is: | Then: |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| In its original container | Intact | RELEASE |
| | Not intact | REGULATE as a fruit or vegetable of foreign origin |
| Not in its original container | _____→ | |

TABLE 2-3: Citrus encountered in passenger baggage and provisions

| If from: | And it is reentering at: | And: | Then: |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Florida | America Samoa, Arizona, California, Florida, Hawaii, Louisiana, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, Texas, and U.S. Virgin Islands | → | REFUSE ENTRY |
| | Other than States and territories listed in cell above | Stenciled with a Florida brand name | INSPECT AND RELEASE |
| Texas | Arizona, California, Florida, Hawaii, Louisiana ¹ , Puerto Rico, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and U.S. Virgin Islands | → | REFUSE ENTRY |
| | Other than States and territories listed in cell above | Stenciled with a Texas brand name | INSPECT AND RELEASE |
| , Hawaii, or Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands | → | | REFUSE ENTRY |
| Other than three cells above | → | | RELEASE |

1 Only the parishes of Iberia, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lafouche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Mary, and Terrebonne.

TABLE 2-4: Noncitrus encountered in passenger baggage and provisions

| If encountered in: | And proof of origin is based on: | Then: |
|--|--|---------------------|
| Passenger baggage | Stenciling or other satisfactory proof | INSPECT AND RELEASE |
| | Other than stenciling | REFUSE ENTRY |
| Provisions in autos, trailers, yachts, private fishing vessels, and private aircraft | Stenciling, sales receipts, or satisfactory answers to questions by officers | RELEASE |
| | Other than above cell | REFUSE ENTRY |

Produce of Foreign Origin That is Transiting the United States

| If produce: | And: | And from: | And is: | And: | Then: |
|---|--|-------------------|----------------------------|--|---|
| Would be admissible without mandatory treatment into your port | Would be admissible without treatment into all parts of the U.S. through which the produce will transit | → | | | 1. AUTHORIZE movement, and 2. ENSURE that shipment is moving under Customs bond ³ |
| | Would not be admissible without treatment into all parts of the U.S. through which the produce will transit | → | | Has formal PPQ Form Transportation & Exportation (T&E) Permit ¹ | 1. REQUIRE the shipment to follow the routing and to meet the conditions specified on the permit ² 2. ENSURE the shipment is moving under Customs bond ³ , and 3. AUTHORIZE movement under seal |
| | | | | Lacks formal T&E Permit | REFUSE to allow the produce to transit the U.S. |
| Would not be admissible into your port; or would be admissible only with mandatory treatment | → | Mexico | Avocado or citrus | → | USE the following table |
| | | | Neither avocado nor citrus | Lacks formal T&E Permit | REFUSE to allow the produce to transit the U.S. |
| | | | | Has formal T&E Permit ¹ | 1. REQUIRE the shipment to follow the routing and to meet the conditions specified on the permit ² |
| | | Other than Mexico | → | Has formal T&E Permit ¹ | 2. ENSURE the shipment is moving under Customs bond ³ , and 3. AUTHORIZE movement under seal |
| | | | | Lacks formal T&E Permit | REFUSE to allow the produce to transit the U.S. |

- 1 See the permit for specific routing and conditions for entry.
- 2 If the conditions on the permit are not met, refuse to allow the shipment to transit the U.S.
- 3 If you need additional directions on IT movement, see "Authorizing In-Transit Movement" in your Airport and Maritime Operations Manual.

Mexican Avocados and Citrus That are Transiting the United States

| If: | And are entering: | And: | Then: |
|----------|--|---|---|
| Avocados | Brownsville, Eagle Pass, El Paso, Galveston, Hidalgo, Houston, or Laredo, Texas; or Nogales, Arizona | Lacks formal PPQ Transportation and Exportation (T&E) Permit | REFUSE to allow the shipment to move through the United States |
| | | Has formal PPQ T&E Permit ¹ | 1. REQUIRE the shipment to follow the routing and to meet the conditions that are specified on the permit ² 2. ENSURE that the shipment is moving under Customs bond ³ , and 3. AUTHORIZE movement under seal |
| | Other than a port listed above | —————→ | REFUSE to allow the shipment to move through the United States |
| Citrus | A Mexican border port between and including Nogales, Arizona, and Laredo, Texas | Lacks formal PPQ T&E Permit | 1. REQUIRE the shipment to follow the routing and to meet the conditions that are specified on the permit ¹ 2. ENSURE that the shipment is moving under Customs bond ³ , and 3. AUTHORIZE movement under seal |
| | | Has formal PPQ T&E Permit ¹ | |
| | Other than a port listed above | —————→ | REFUSE to allow the shipment to move through the United States |

- 1 See the permit for specific information.
- 2 If the conditions on the permit are **not** met, refuse to allow the shipment to transit the U.S.
- 3 Send a copy of the Customs T&E document to the port where the produce will exit the U.S.

Noncommercial Quantities of Mexican Produce for Local Consumption at the Mexican Border

Use this decision table to determine the correct regulatory action to take on **noncommercial** importations of Mexican produce for **local consumption**.

| If: | And: | And it: | Then: |
|------------|---|---|---|
| Vegetables | <i>Brassica</i> spp., <i>Chenopodium</i> spp., or Cilantro | Is accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate declaring the shipment has been inspected and found to be free of <i>Copitarsia</i> larvae and adults | RELEASE if free from pests, otherwise, REFUSE ENTRY |
| | | Lacks the certification described in the cell above | INSPECT thoroughly for <i>Copitarsia</i> larvae and adults and if free from pests, RELEASE |
| | Potatoes, sweet potatoes, yams, or lemon grass | —————→ | REFUSE ENTRY |
| | Neither <i>Brassica</i> spp., <i>Chenopodium</i> spp., cilantro, lemon grass, potatoes, sweet potatoes, nor yams ¹ | —————→ | INSPECT AND RELEASE |
| Fruit | Papaya | —————→ | INSPECT AND RELEASE, a phytosanitary certificate is unnecessary |
| | Other than papaya | —————→ | ALLOW ENTRY only to fruits listed as approved for Mexico |

1 For example, a vegetable like shepherd's purse (not admissible as a commercial entry) would be admissible if a noncommercial shipment for local consumption.

Sampling and Inspecting Apples, Pears, and Sand Pears from Australia and New Zealand

Use these procedures to detect various pests including light-brown apple moth and hitchhiking pests. These procedures also assume that the fruit is shipped in containers.

Inspectional Unit

- ◆ PPQ (local management) determines what constitutes the inspectional unit before the shipping season starts and informs the importer before finalizing the procedures. It is more efficient to make the inspectional unit as large as possible and include all containers in the inspectional unit

- ◆ Include all containers in the inspectional unit

Sampling Rate

Select 250 cartons of fruit per inspectional unit, equally from each container.

Selecting the Sample

Take the total number of cartons in the inspectional unit and divide that number by 250 cartons (sample size) to determine the frequency rate for selecting your sample cartons.

EXAMPLE:

You have to sample an 8,000 carton shipment of Australian pears which is in four reefer containers.

1. Divide the total number of cartons by 250 cartons (sample size) to determine when to select the sample.
2. Select one sample carton every 32 cartons. Select sample cartons from all four containers.

Inspecting the Sample

Look for tortricids like the light-brown apple moth in the calyx (end) of the fruit. Look for hitchhikers at large in the shipment. If hitchhikers (including tortricids) are found, require T101-a-1. If midges are found, see [page 2-36](#)

Sampling and Inspecting Apples and Pears from Chile

Use these procedures to detect adult populations of hitchhiking pests such as crickets, weevils, and various woodborers.

Inspectional Unit

Generally, the inspectional unit is all the fruit listed on the bill of lading (B/L).

Sampling Rates

| If the number of cases per inspectional unit is: | Then the sample size is: |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1 through 30 | all cases (100 percent) |
| 31 through 2,000 | 2,001 through 10,000 |
| 30 cases | 50 cases |
| 10,001 and greater | 100 cases |

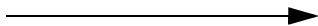
Selecting the Sample

- ◆ Select no more than 20 percent of the total number of cases sampled from a pallet in an inspectional unit
- ◆ Select the remaining 80 percent of the cases at a rate not to exceed one case per pallet (when possible)
- ◆ Select 20 percent of the sample cases from the center or bottom portions of the pallet
- ◆ Inspect 100 percent of the contents of each case sampled

EXAMPLE:

A shipment (B/L) of 14,000 cases of Chilean pears arrives at your port.

1. Check the sampling rate table and find that you must sample 100 cases of fruit.
2. Select no more than 20 cases from a pallet. Assuming that you sampled the maximum number of cases from the first pallet, you would still have 80 cases to sample. You could select no more than one case per pallet. Also, you would be required to sample 20 percent of the cases from the center or bottom portions of the pallets.



Inspecting Ethrogs from Medfly Infested Countries Entering NA and NP Ports

Inspection Techniques

Inspect for—

- ◆ Medfly
- ◆ Citrus flower moth

Examine the exterior of the ethrogs for surface abnormalities and insect stings. The citrus flower moth, if present, will occur as a larva boring in the outer rind of the fruit. When inspecting for medfly, look for insect stings on the outer surface of the ethrog.

These procedures are designed to allow shipments of ethrogs from *Ceratitis capitata* (medfly) infested countries⁴ to enter at **NA** and **NP** ports⁵ with inspection in lieu of treatment if they meet the conditions listed in the following tables.

4 Medfly infested countries for ethrogs: Albania, Algeria, Corsica, El Salvador, Ecuador, France, Greece, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Panama, Spain, Tunisia, and Turkey.
5 Ethrogs allowed entry at **NA** or **NP** ports are eligible for movement to any part of the United States.

| If the shipment is: | And inspection reveals: | Then: |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Commercial | | GO to Table 2-5 |
| Noncommercial (small amounts in passenger baggage or mail) | Neither insect stings nor pests | RELEASE |
| | Insect stings or pests | REFUSE ENTRY |

TABLE 2-5: Commercial shipments of ethrogs

| If harvested: | And the shipment is: | Then: |
|--|--|--|
| Five days ago or more (verify date from accompanying documentation) | Accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate stating that the shipment is free from the medfly (<i>Ceratitidis capitata</i>) and the citrus flower moth (<i>Prays citri</i>) | 1. INSPECT 3 to 5 percent of fruit, then 2. GO to Table 2-6 |
| | Uncertified or certified but not as described in the cell above | 1. INSPECT 25 percent of fruit, then 2. GO to Table 2-6 |
| Less than 5 days ago | —————→ | REQUIRE T107-a OR T108-a |

TABLE 2-6: Regulatory action based on inspection results

| If you find: | Then: |
|---|--|
| Citrus flower moth (<i>Prays citri</i>) or insect stings but no other pests | REQUIRE T107-a or T108-a |
| Insects other than medfly or citrus flower moth | REQUIRE treatment based upon pest(s) found |
| Neither insect stings nor pests | RELEASE |

Noncommercial Quantities of Japanese Produce Entering Hawaii

Use this decision table to determine the correct regulatory action to take on noncommercial importations of small quantities **admissible** Japanese produce. This produce may have been intercepted in baggage, cargo, or the mail, but **cannot** require treatment as a condition of entry:

| If the produce is: | And the produce was harvested in: | And you have: | Then: |
|---|---|---|--------------|
| Asparagus, sand pear, strawberry, or <i>Vaccinium</i> spp. ¹ | _____→ | | RELEASE |
| Cannonball fruit, Chinese water chestnut, cyprus corm, lily bulb, maguey leaf, mushroom, palm heart (peeled) ² , St. John's bread, tamarind bean pod, truffle, or water-chestnut | _____→ | | |
| Yam | _____→ | | |
| A kind not listed in the 3 cells above (but, referring to page 2.73, must have been admissible without treatment from JAPAN) | The southern islands of Amami, Bonin, Ryukyu, Tokara, or Volcano Islands | _____→ | REFUSE ENTRY |
| | | | |
| | The northern islands of Japan (those not listed in the cell above) | Inconclusive or no proof or origin Conclusive proof or origin ³ | RELEASE |

- 1 These are temperate zone crops that will **not** grow on the tropical Amami, Bonin, Ryukyu, Tokara, or Volcano Islands.
- 2 All outer green tissue must be removed, leaving a white to off-white piece of the stem.
- 3 Conclusive proof that the produce did **not** originate on Amami, Bonin, Ryukyu, Tokara, or Volcano Islands (acceptable proofs of origin include statements on commercial packaging and phytosanitary certificates).

Sampling and Inspecting Kiwi (fruit) from New Zealand

Use these procedures to detect adult populations of hitchhiking pests.

Inspectional Unit

| If the shipment is: | And a single B/L has: | Then: |
|---|--|--|
| Containerized with 2,088 trays per container | Five or more containers consigned to the same importer regardless of marks, numbers, or growers lots | USE that single B/L as an inspection unit |
| | Other than in cell above | COMBINE B/L's to make inspectional units of no more than five containers. CAUTION: Do not exceed five containers per inspectional unit |
| Break bulk (noncontainerized), or containerized with contents other than in cell above | _____→ | COMBINE B/L's to the equivalent of five containers (10,400 trays) |

Sampling Rates

| If the number of containers in the inspectional unit is: | Then sample this many containers: | And draw this many trays ¹ for your sample: | If the number of containers in the inspectional unit is: | Then sample this many containers: | And draw this many trays* for your sample: |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 1 | 30 | 50-53 | 15 | 460 |
| 2-4 | 2 | 50 | 54-57 | 16 | 490 |
| 5 | 3 | 100 | 58-61 | 17 | 520 |
| 6-9 | 4 | 130 | 62-65 | 18 | 550 |
| 10-13 | 5 | 160 | 66-69 | 19 | 580 |
| 14-17 | 6 | 190 | 70-73 | 20 | 610 |
| 18-21 | 7 | 220 | 74-77 | 21 | 640 |
| 22-25 | 8 | 250 | 78-81 | 22 | 670 |
| 26-29 | 9 | 280 | 82-85 | 23 | 700 |
| 30-33 | 10 | 310 | 86-89 | 24 | 730 |
| 34-37 | 11 | 340 | 90-93 | 25 | 760 |
| 38-41 | 12 | 370 | 94-97 | 26 | 790 |
| 42-45 | 13 | 400 | 98-101 | 27 | 820 |
| 46-49 | 14 | 430 | | | |

1 If kiwis are being shipped in bins rather than trays, then dump and inspect one bin per container.

Selecting the Sample

Select the sample uniformly among the containers being sampled.

EXAMPLE: A shipment of New Zealand kiwi arrives at the port of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The shipment consists of 10,400 trays of kiwi in five containers. The inspectional unit is five containers which means that you'll need to draw 100 trays of fruit from three containers. Drawing the sample equally from the three containers would mean that you sample 33 trays from two containers and 34 trays from one container to equal 100 trays.

Inspecting the Sample

Since you're looking for hitchhikers that are at large in the shipment, your inspection will focus less on the fruit and more on the container and packaging materials. One pest of concern is *Nysius huttoni*, a wheat bug that is a serious pest of wheat.

Regulatory Action to Take on Beans⁶ Infested with *Cydia fabivora*, *Epinotia aporema*, and *Maruca testulalis*

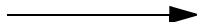
| If the Origin is: | And the destination is: | Then: |
|--|---|--|
| Belize, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago, or the West Indies | North of and including the District of Columbia (38°N) and east of and including Salt Lake City (115°W) | RELEASE if no other pests are found |
| | Other than the areas listed in the cell above | REQUIRE T101-k-2 |
| Mexico | North of and including the District of Columbia (38 °N) and east of and including Salt Lake City (115 °W) | ◆ ALLOW inbound movement through other U.S. areas to destination, or ◆ REQUIRE T101-k-2 |
| | Other than the areas listed in the cell above | REQUIRE T101-k-2 |
| Other than a country or region listed in the two cells above | —————→ | CONSULT with your Area Identifier for what regulatory action to take |

Regulatory Action to Take on Okra From Mexico, the Dominican Republic, and Suriname

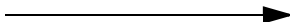
| If destined to: | And the date is: | Then: |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, or any part of Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, or Virginia south of the 38th parallel | May 16 through November 30 | REQUIRE T101-p-2 |
| | December 1 through May 15 | INSPECT AND RELEASE |
| California | March 16 through December 31 | REQUIRE T101-p-2 |
| | January 1 through March 15 | INSPECT AND RELEASE |
| Puerto Rico | —————→ | |
| Other than a State or area listed in the three cells above | —————→ | |

⁶ Broad (faba) beans, lima beans, garden beans, pigeon peas, cowpeas, mung beans, and soybeans.

Regulatory Action to Take on Okra From the West Indies (except for the Dominican Republic), Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela into NA Ports

| If destined to: | And inspection reveals: | Then: |
|---|---|--|
| Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, District of Columbia, or any part of Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, or Virginia north of the 38th parallel | Pink bollworm | RELEASE |
| | Nonreportable plant pests | |
| | Reportable plant pests (other than pink bollworm) | REQUIRE treatment as specified in the Treatment Manual |
| Other than a State or area listed in the cell above |  | REQUIRE T101-p-2 |

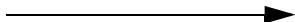
Regulatory Action to Take on Commercial Shipments⁷ of Unshu Oranges From Japan and of Mandarin Oranges⁸ from Cheju Island, Republic of Korea

| If entering: | And is destined to or transiting: | Then: | Authority: |
|---|---|---------------------|-------------|
| American Samoa, Arizona, California, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Florida, Louisiana, Puerto Rico, Texas, or U.S. Virgin Islands |  | REFUSE ENTRY | 7CFR 319.28 |
| Other than a State or territory listed in the cell above | | | |
| | American Samoa, Arizona, California, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Florida, Louisiana, Puerto Rico, Texas, or U.S. Virgin Islands | | |
| | Other than a State or territory listed in the cell above | USE following table | |

Unshu oranges destined to States and territories into which they are allowed

⁷ Noncommercial shipments are refused entry.

⁸ For a trial period, Korean mandarin oranges are **not** required to be in tissue wrappers.

| If the shipment: | And the shipment: | Then: |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Is accompanied by a Japanese or Korean phytosanitary certificate that—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Affirms that the shipment is apparently free from citrus canker, and ◆ Bears the impression of a “Shipment authorized to” stamp that states the shipment will be held at destination until released by PPQ. (The stamp requires the signature of an authorized official) | Meets the following condition: The tissue wrapped paper and cartons are printed with a statement that specifies the States into which the oranges are allowed | RELEASE |
| | Does not meet the condition in the cell above | REFUSE ENTRY |
| Is not accompanied by a phyto-sanitary certificate or one that lacks the declarations in the cell above |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HOLD shipment, and 2. REQUIRE the phytosanitary certificate |

Regulatory Action to Take on Fresh or Frozen Corn Smut Galls Imported for Consumption

Corn smut galls⁹ (the fruiting bodies of *Ustilago maydis*) are imported and eaten like mushrooms. The galls may be naked or attached to parts of the corn plant. Follow these guidelines for taking action on these shipments.



If the importer plans to import corn smut into Hawaii, the importer or the importer's agent needs to contact the Plant Quarantine Branch of the State Department of Agriculture prior to import.

| If the gall or gall on corn was harvested in: | And the shipment is: | And you find: | Then: |
|---|---|---|------------------------|
| Mexico | Commercial | → | REFUSE ENTRY |
| | Noncommercial, such that you can effectively inspect 100 percent of the galls or corn | Evidence of horse's tooth ergot ¹ No evidence of horse's tooth ergot ¹ | INSPECT AND RELEASE |
| Bermuda, Canada, Central America, Lesser Antilles, South America, Trinidad and Tobago, or the West Indies | → | → | |
| Other than the Western Hemisphere | Free from corn tissue | It's fresh | REFUSE ENTRY |
| | | It's frozen | INSPECT AND RELEASE |
| | With corn tissue | It's fresh | REGULATE as fresh corn |
| | | It's frozen | SEE page 5.68 |

Regulatory Action to Take when Sampling and Inspecting Precleared Mangoes from Mexico

1. Randomly inspect the first 10 shipments out of every approved treatment facility that imports mangoes through your Port of Entry. Thereafter, randomly inspect 1 out of every 20 shipments.
2. Check to see that a PPQ Form 203 accompanies the shipment. Compare the information on the PPQ Form 203 with that on the manifest. Look for discrepancies associated with the trailer I.D. number, number of cartons, treatment stamp, and void date. Also check the seals.

⁹ The galls of corn smut (*Ustilago maydis*) are tumorlike and are covered with glistening, greenish to silvery-white tissue. The galls may be found on any above ground part. The sclerotia of horse's tooth ergot (*Claviceps gigantea*) are white to grayish-brown and comma-shaped, resembling a horse's tooth (hence their Spanish name, diente de caballo). The sclerotia are on the ear, replacing the corn kernels. There may be one to several sclerotia per ear.

| If the PPQ Form 203 is: | And the PPQ Form 203: | And the seals are: | Then: |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Present | Agrees with the manifest | Intact | GO to Step 4 |
| | | Broken or missing | 1. Examine the shipment for tampering 2. Continue to Step 3 |
| | Disagrees with the manifest | —————→ | HOLD and CONTACT IS |
| Absent | —————→ | —————→ | REFUSE ENTRY and CONTACT IS |

3. Determine whether the tampering of the shipment occurred and its extent.

| If there was: | Then: |
|---|---|
| No tampering of cargo | GO to Step 4 |
| Minimal tampering of cargo (90 percent of pallet integrity is present) | 1. INSPECT the shipment, sampling and cutting 1 fruit from 30 randomly selected cartons 2. CONTINUE to Step 5 |
| Major tampering of cargo (load is in disarray) | REFUSE ENTRY and CONTACT IS |

4. Decide whether to select the cargo for inspection.

| If you decide: | Then: |
|--|---|
| Not to select the shipment for inspection | 1. RELEASE the cargo 2. RECORD your inspection results as "Released" |
| To select the shipment for inspection | 1. INSPECT the shipment, sampling and cutting 1 fruit from 30 randomly selected cartons 2. CONTINUE to Step 5 |

5. Inspect the fruit for pests, especially fruit fly.

| If you intercepted: | And are: | And you examined: | Then: |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| Fruit fly larvae | All dead | 15 fruit | Examine 15 additional fruit and reenter this table |
| | | 30 fruit | 1. RELEASE the cargo 2. RECORD your inspection results as "Inspected and Released" |
| | Any live | —————→ | 1. REFUSE ENTRY 2. CONTACT IS and AQI & Preclearance Programs 3. HOLD live larvae in fruit and CONTACT Scientific Services 4. Hold other shipments from same packing house until further notice |
| No fruit fly larvae | —————→ | —————→ | 1. RELEASE the cargo 2. RECORD your inspection results as "Inspected and Released" |

Regulatory Action to Take on Precleared Fruits and Vegetables

1. Get hold of the PPQ Form 203 (Foreign Site Certification of Inspection and/or Treatment) or an e-mail message that verifies that PPQ precleared the shipment.
2. Using the e-mail message or PPQ Form 203, verify that the APHIS or steamship line seals are intact. This verification must occur at the first point of entry.

| If, upon verification the seals are: | Then: |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Intact | Continue to Step 3 that follows |
| Broken or Missing | HOLD until investigation determines the best corrective action that will ensure future compliance. Then, take that action based on your best professional judgment and the concurrence of your supervisor ¹ |

- ¹ Actions include issuing a civil penalty or Warning Letter (see Page 3.28 in your Airport and Maritime Operations Manual), refusing entry to the shipment, or giving a verbal warning.

3. Confirm that the information and conditions described on PPQ Form 203 or in e-mail message agree with the cargo manifest or other Customs entry document. Compare the seal numbers with what is on the accompanying documents.

| If, upon confirmation there is: | Then: |
|--|---|
| Agreement between the seals, paperwork, and shipment | Continue to Step 4 that follows |
| Disagreement between the seals, paperwork, and shipment | CONTACT Program Support at (301) 734-8295 for guidance ¹ |

- ¹ PPQ Program Support will notify International Services, Operational Support so that they may investigate the incident and take appropriate corrective action.

4. Determine if special unloading of shipment is necessary.

| If a: | And contains: | Then: |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Bulk shipment | A combination of uncleared and precleared cargo | 1. MONITOR the unloading 2. PREVENT commingling of uncleared and precleared cargo, and 3. ENSURE that uncleared and precleared cargo are held in separate areas or that either all the precleared or uncleared cargo is removed from the area first before the other is off loaded. |
| | Solely cleared or precleared cargo | RELEASE the cargo without further inspection |
| Containerized shipment | → | |

Clearing Commercial Shipments of Fruits and Vegetables Under Protocol of the Border Cargo Release Program

Purpose

To use pest risk analysis in processing agricultural cargo more effectively and efficiently by expediting the release of high volume, low risk Mexican agricultural items.

Limitations and Operational Issues

Only commercial shipments from Mexico are eligible. Shipments must contain only a single eligible commodity or mixed eligible commodities.

When PPQ is **not** on duty, operational issues must be resolved at the port level. The Border Cargo Release (BCR) Program is operational 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

Ports Participating

| | |
|------------|---|
| Arizona: | Nogales and San Luis |
| California | Calexico and San Ysidro |
| New Mexico | Columbus and Santa Teresa |
| Texas | Brownsville, Eagle Pass, El Paso, Laredo, and Pharr |

Sampling Criteria for BCR Commodities

Sample at least one shipment per commodity weekly. Sample 2 percent of the carriers transporting BCR commodities. Use the table that follows to determine how many boxes to select. If the commodity is frozen or otherwise processed, do a tailgate inspection of 2 percent of the shipments to verify contents. Refer to your local port procedures to select a sample for inspection. Procedures for selecting random samples vary from port to port.

| Total Number of Boxes on Truck | Number of Boxes to Select at Random From the Truck and to Inspect to Detect Pests |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1-10 | 10 |
| 11-12 | 11 |
| 13 | 12 |
| 14-15 | 13 |
| 16-17 | 14 |
| 18-19 | 15 |
| 20-22 | 16 |
| 23-25 | 17 |
| 26-28 | 18 |
| 29-32 | 19 |
| 33-38 | 20 |
| 39-44 | 21 |
| 45-53 | 22 |
| 54-64 | 23 |
| 66-82 | 24 |
| 83-108 | 25 |
| 109-157 | 26 |
| 158-271 | 27 |
| 272-885 | 28 |
| 886-200,000 | 29 |

Adding New BCR Commodities or Making them Ineligible

Commodities may be added to the list of eligible commodities according to local port conditions and with the approval of the Regional Office. Similarly, commodities may be removed for cause from the list of eligible commodities.

Step 1—Decide if the Commodity is Eligible Under the Protocol of the BCR Program:

| If entering: | And the commodity is: | And the shipment is: | Then: |
|---|---|---|--|
| Brownsville, Calexico, Columbus, Eagle Pass, El Paso, Laredo, Nogalex, Pharr, San Luiz, San Ysidro, or Santa Teresa | Printed in green on the list of admissible T101-K-1 commodities from Mexico on page 2.86 (commodities eligible for release under the protocol of the BCR Program) | Not randomly selected for inspection | RELEASE (waive inspection and skip to Step 3) |
| | Not eligible for release under the protocol of the BCR Program | Randomly selected for inspection | INSPECT Continue to Step 2 for directions for inspection |
| | | —————→ | |
| A port other than one listed in the cell above | —————→ | —————→ | |

Step 2—Inspect the Shipment:

Verify the identity of the shipment. Inspect for pests, pathogens, and contaminants. Look for other quarantine material and non-BCR commodities.

Act according to pest(s) found (release, refuse entry, or treat). If you treated or refused entry to a BCR commodity, notify other ports of your findings. If you detect a BCR commodity or its carrier contaminated with quarantine material, inspect all shipments from that broker, importer, location, or other common factor until five shipments pass without finding contamination or until you determine risk no longer exists.

Step 3—Documentation:

If a BCR commodity, stamp the paperwork, *RELEASED UNDER THE BCR PROGRAM*. Record the following information on PPQ Form 280:

- ◆ Commodity
- ◆ Weight
- ◆ Disposition
- ◆ Number of shipments by commodity
- ◆ Contaminants (specify)

Sampling and Inspecting Apples, Citrus, Grapes, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, and Plums from the Republic of South Africa

Use these procedures to detect various pests. The palletized fruits may be shipped in one of two ways:

- ◆ In the holds of vessels approved by APHIS for in-transit cold treatment
- ◆ In refrigerated sea containers approved by APHIS

Inspectional Unit

Before sampling, the officer must check the vessel or container to ensure that the requirements for cold treatment have been met.

- ◆ Local management of PPQ determines what constitutes an inspectional unit. Determine what an inspectional unit is before the shipping season begins and disclose this to the importer before making procedures final.
- ◆ An inspectional unit must include all the containers in the shipment.

Sampling Rate

Select 150 cartons of fruit for each inspectional unit sampled.

Selecting the Sample

- ◆ The shipper or the shipper's agent must number each carton, starting with the number one, as each is taken off the packing line and placed on the pallets. However, cartons of fruit may be mentally numbered, beginning with a carton in the lower corner of the pallet and continuing around and toward the top of the pallet.
- ◆ The containers may have to be stripped to get at the correctly numbered cartons for the sample

Procedure for Selecting the Cartons for Inspection

1. Establish the inspectional unit.
2. Divide the inspectional unit established in Step 1 by 150 cartons. The quotient will be the sampling interval.
3. Randomly select a number between one and the quotient calculated in Step 2. This will be the first box to inspect.
4. To determine the second box to inspect, add the first box number to the sampling interval. Determine the third box to inspect by adding the second box number to the sampling interval. Repeat the process until 150 boxes are accounted for.

Example 1

A shipment of 2,000 cartons

- ◆ The inspectional unit is 2,000 cartons.
- ◆ $2,000 \div 150 = 13$ (the sampling interval)
- ◆ The randomly selected number between 1 and 13 is 8. Eight (8) represents the first box to be inspected.
- ◆ $8 + 13 = 21$, the second box to be inspected; $21 + 13 = 34$, the third box to be inspected; and so on.

Example 2

A shipment of 6,000 cartons

1. The inspectional unit is 6,000 cartons.
2. $6,000 \div 150 = 40$ (the sampling interval)
3. The randomly selected number between 1 and 40 is 12. Twelve (12) represents the first carton to be inspected).
4. $12 + 40 = 52$, the second carton to be inspected; $52 + 40 = 92$, the third carton to be inspected; $92 + 40 = 132$, the fourth carton to be inspected; and so on.

Special Procedures—Clearing Commercial Shipments of Mexican Avocados

Purpose

To reduce the risk of introducing avocado pests.

Limitations and Operational Issues

Only commercial shipments from Mexico are eligible. Avocados may enter the United States only from October 15 through the April 15 of the following year. The avocados must be grown in certified orchards in approved municipalities in the Mexican State of Michoacan. They must be shipped only from certified packing houses.

Avocados may only be distributed to the following States: Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Ports Approved for the Entry of Avocados

The ports that are approved for entry will be specified on the permit. In general, these are as follows:

TEXAS: Brownsville, Pharr, Laredo, Eagle Pass, El Paso

ARIZONA: Nogales

Directions for Clearing the Avocados

Step 1—Check the paperwork:

- A. Look for a Notice of Arrival. This form should include all pertinent information including the avocados final destination and whether transloading is necessary.
- B. Make sure the importer has a specific avocado permit. This permit is valid for one shipping season. Review the permit for specific requirements concerning distribution and breaking of seals by PPQ at the in-bond destination.
- C. Require a Mexican Phytosanitary Certificate. The certificate must carry and AD that, “All the conditions of 7CFR 319.56-2ff have been met.”

Step 2—Check itinerary and final destination:

- A. Require all shipments to move under a U.S. Customs’ bond to the approved destination. A consumption entry is unacceptable.

- B. Make sure the avocados are moving to an approved State.

Step 3—Inspect the avocados and the cartons they are contained in:

- A. Examine the cartons. The avocados must be packed in clean, new boxes, or clean plastic reusable crates. The boxes or crates must be clearly marked with the identity of the grower, packing house, and exporter, and the statement "Not for distribution in AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, FL, GA HI, LA, MS, NV, NM, NC, OK, OR, SC, TN TX, WA, Puerto Rico, and all other U.S. Territories." If the marking is absent, refuse entry to the avocados.
- B. Randomly select 30 boxes from each shipment (an inspectional unit). Take one avocado from each box and examine the stem end of the fruit for oviposition or infestation sites made by the stem weevil. Then, slice the avocado thinly across the stem end looking for this weevil. Finally, slice the remainder of the avocado looking for fruit fly larvae and signs of seed pests. Be alert for the following pests: The large avocado seed weevil (*Heilipus lauri*), the avocado seed moth (*Stenomoma catenifer*), the small avocado seed weevils (*Conotrachelus aguacatae* and *C. perseae*), and the avocado stem weevil (*Copturus aguacatae*).
- C. If you intercept any of the listed pests or fruit flies, hold the shipment and immediately call Claudio Garcia at (818) 412-0390. Claudio is the Avocado Coordinator. If other pests of quarantine significance are intercepted, follow standard operating procedures.

Instructing Affected Parties

Instruct local U.S. Customs brokers and affected parties of the requirements for shipping Mexican avocados.

Supervising Transloading

- A. Make sure the avocados are transloaded into refrigerated trucks.
- B. Supervise the transloading. Remain on the site for the duration of the transloading. Check periodically to make sure that the avocados are being stamped with an approved packing house registration sticker. Once the transloading is done, affix an APHIS seal to the container and continue with the transiting procedures that follow.

Transiting Procedures



Air shipments are prohibited from landing outside the approved States for further transit to approved areas.

- A. Stamp the inbound paperwork, "Shipment Authorized to...(destination)."
- B. Issue a limited permit (PPQ Form 530) and write the APHIS seal number on the permit.
- C. Give the truck driver a transit map that includes the instructions for the authorized movement through transit corridors. Tell the driver that the APHIS seal must remain intact until a USDA inspector or their designee arrives to break the seal and release the avocados.
- D. Ahead of the shipment, send a facsimile to the SPHD at the final destination. Include all pertinent documents with your FAX, making sure that the APHIS seal number is legible.

Cooperating with Other Agencies

Fruit and Vegetable Division (F&V) of Agricultural Marketing Service is responsible for grading the avocados when they arrive either at the border or at the point of destination. If the avocados are graded at the border, coordinate with F&V and supervise the grading. If the F&V takes samples, make sure that they are returned to PPQ for destruction.

Special Procedures–Procedures for Precleared Apples and Pears from New Zealand

Due to the interceptions of the apple leaf curl midge (*Daineura mali*) and pear leaf curling midge (*Dasineura pyri*), apply the following procedures to **all** shipments of apples and pears from New Zealand. The preclearance officer in New Zealand will inspect the apples or pears and write a "midge" statement on the PPQ Form 203. The statement will cite whether midges were found during inspection.

Shipments with a PPQ Form 203 that States Midges Are Present

If shipments arrive with a 203 that states "Midges are present," the shipment may **not** enter the State of California. If the shipment of apples or pears are for California, give the importer the following options:

- ◆ To destroy the shipment
- ◆ To re-export the shipment

- ◆ To fumigate the shipment for midges
- ◆ To ship to another state (you may allow the shipment to transit California)

In such cases, it is unnecessary to inspect the shipment. When completing The Emergency Action Notice, cite Section 414 of the Plant Protection Act as your authority for taking action.

Shipments with a PPQ Form 203 that States Midges Are Not Present

Allow the shipment to enter at any Port of Entry. It is unnecessary to inspect the shipment.

Shipments with a PPQ Form 203 Lacking a Midge Statement

| If the shipment arrives at: | And is destined for: | Then: |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| A California port | A State other than California | Safeguard (seal/transit permit) and allow movement out of the State of California without inspection |
| Other than a California port | California | 1. Conduct a tailgate inspection of the first 5-10 boxes ◆ If no pests are found, pull the rest of the 30 boxes randomly from throughout the B/L ¹ ◆ If midges are found during inspection, see instructions above, for "If shipments arrive with a 203 stating "midges are present" |
| | California | 2. Send the midge to the Identifier at the Los Angeles Inspection Station |
| | A State other than California | No further action is necessary |

¹ The inspection rate is based on a 10 percent infestation rate with a 95 percent confidence level (this inspection rate is for the midges and **not** the target pest).

